Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SAJ-01

SS-20 NSC-10 NIC-01 DRC-01 /104 W

----- 107676

R 121010Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7522

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 4561

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ETRN CH UR NO

SUBJECT: PRC CIVAIR RELATIONS WITH SCANDINAVIA

REF: STATE 238743

- 1. EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED PRC/SCANDINAVIA CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT WITH TORE BOEGH OF NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. BOEGH LED SCANDINAVIAN DELEGATION TO PEKING LAST MAY TO NEGOTIATE THE AGREEMENT. HE CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS WERE DRAGGING THEIR HEELS ON GIVING SAS LANDING AND OVERFLIGHTS RIGHTS FOR THE SERVICE TO PEKING.
- 2. ACCORDING TO BOEGH SCANDINAVIAN EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW
 ADVISED SOVIETS IN MAY 1973 THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS BEING CONCLUDED
 WITH PRC WHICH WOULD INCLUDE REFERENCE TO A PREFERRED ROUTE TO
 PEKING VIA USSR. THE ROUTE WOULD BE COPENHAGEN, MOSCOW, IRKUTSK,
 PEKING. SAS WOULD HAVE PREFERRED ROUTING VIA SINKIANG, BUT
 AGREED TO ROUTE VIA MONGOLIA AT CHINESE INSISTENCE. BOEGH
 SAID PRC HAD NOT RAISED QUESTION OF SOUTHERN ROUTE FROM
 COPENHAGEN TO PEKING WHICH WOULD NOT CROSS USSR. OVERCONFIDENTIAL

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FLIGHT RIGHTS ARE BEING SOUGHT FROM MONGOLIA.

- 3. BOEGH SAID THAT SCANDINAVIANS KNEW FROM THE START THAT SOVIETS WOULD DEMAND A QUID PRO QUO FOR LANDING AND OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS. HE BELIEVED THAT SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT SCANDINAVIANS SHOULD HAVE TALKED TO USSR BEFORE PRC IS NEGOTIATING TACTIC DESIGNED TO INCREASE PRICE FOR LANDING AND OVERLFIGHT RIGHTS. HOWEVER, SOVIETS HAVE NOT SO FAR AGREED TO NEGOTIATE WITH SCANDINAVIANS, DESPITE FREQUENT PRODDING AT HIGH LEVELS BY ALL THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. SWEDES WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS. NEGOTIATIONS WERE FIRST FORMALLY REQUESTED IN JULY 1973.
- 5. BOEGH COMMENTED THAT SHORTLY AFTER SCANDINAVIAN/
 PRC CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED, THE USSR AND PRC ALSO
 REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON SERVICE BETWEEN PEKING AND
 MOSCOW. BOEGH EXPECTS THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE PUT IN FINAL
 FORM SHORTLY AND THAT SERVICE UNDER IT MAY START IN 1974 OR
 AS SOON AS CHINESE CAN BUILD UP THEIR CIVIL AIR FLEET. HE
 SPECULATES THAT THE SOVIETS MAY WISH TO CONCLUDE THIS AGREEMENT
 AND TO HAVE SERVICE BEGIN UNDER IT BEFORE AGREEING TO
 SAS SERVICE TO PEKING BY MOSCOW. HE BELIEVES THERE ARE NO
 POLITICAL REASONS FOR SOVIET DELAYS IN AGREEING TO
 NEGOTIATE ROUTE TO PEKING WITH SCANDINAVIANS.
- 6. BOEGH ANTICIPATES THAT SOVIETS WILL DEMAND
 A HIGHER SHARE OF SAS REVENUE FROM THE PROFITABLE COPEN-HAGEN-MOSCOW ROUTE IN RETURN FOR LANDING AND OVERFLIGHT
 RIGHTS TO PEKING. SAS HAD ORIGINALLY HOPED TO START
 SERVICE IN 1974, BUT BOEGH SAID WHOLE QUESTION OF SAS SERVICE TO
 PEKING DURING FUEL CRISIS WAS PROBABLY ACADEMIC NOW. BUCHANAN

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